



6th December

2020

*Saint
Bartholomew
Egdean*

*Christingle
Service*

The Welcome

Gathering to worship God
In the name of the Father and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit
Amen

The Bidding

Brothers and sisters in Christ, welcome to St Bartholomew's Church today. We have come together in the presence of God our Father to rejoice in the gift of Jesus to us as the light of the world. In this service we hear and receive the story and message of the coming of Christ, and we offer to God our thanksgiving in prayer and song. We begin this celebration by saying

Our Mission Prayer

Almighty God, you alone can bring order to our unruly wills and affections; give us grace to love what you command and desire what you promise, that in all the changes and chances of this uncertain world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The first Hymn

**Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.**

Refrain

***Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.***

**Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power to save us.
Make us your living voice. *Refrain***

**Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed. *Refrain***

**Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone. *Refrain***

**Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
making your kingdom come. *Refrain***

Saying sorry to God

Come, let us return to the Lord and say:

We are sorry for when we make the Advent season more about us than about you.
Lord have mercy, **Lord have mercy.**

And for the times when we think, act or speak as if the story of Jesus' birth, and his love for us, is more about making ourselves feel good, than following you in loving others. Christ have mercy, **Christ have mercy.**

Father forgive us, and remind us through the Christingle symbol of your greatest gift to us in Jesus, and the example he is to us.
Lord have mercy, **Lord have mercy.**

Absolution

May God - who is light - shine into our hearts and change them until they reflect his more clearly. May God - who is love - lead us through Jesus' example to love him, and all his children, more dearly. **Amen.**

Prayer

Loving Lord, We thank you for the light in our lives, for those who give us love and hope.

We thank you for The Children's Society as it brings light to children and young people who feel unloved or without hope.

Help us to always be a light shining in the

darkness so that we can share the love of God with those around us. In the name of Jesus Christ, the light of the world, **Amen.**

Hearing and responding to the Word of God

John - Chapter 1 verses 1 to 14

Voice 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning.

Voice 2 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.

Voice 1 In him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.

Voice 2 There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all men might believe.

Voice 1 He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

Voice 2 The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world.

Voice 1 He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him.

Voice 2 He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.

Voice 1 Children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

Voice 2 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

The second Hymn

A collection will be made for The Children's

Society during this hymn.

**The Christingle begins with an orange,
like the world which the Lord God made.
For creation is full of his glory;
all around we see his love displayed.**

***Sing Christingle Sing Christingle
Sing Christingle,
it's the light of Christ.
Sing Christingle Sing Christingle!
Sing Christingle, light of Christ.***

**Every year we give thanks
for the seasons, and the fruits of the
earth to share.
The Christingle is here to remind us
that God loves his people everywhere.
Chorus
Sing Christingle!..**

**In his great plan of love God sent Jesus;
we remember his birth again.
But the red ribbon round the Christingle
tells the story of his cross and pain.
Sing Christingle!..**

**To complete the Christingle candle,
telling us of the world's true light.
For the darkness shall not overcome it,
Jesus shines on in the darkest night
Sing Christingle!..**

Declaring our faith

**We believe in God the Father, from whom
every family in heaven and earth is
named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
Who lives in our hearts through faith,
And fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit
Who strengthens us
With power from on high.
We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Intercessions

To us a child is born, to us a son is given.
Wonderful Counsellor,
give your wisdom to the rulers of the
nations.

Lord hear us: **Lord graciously hear us.**

Mighty God, make the whole world know
that the government is on your shoulders.
Lord hear us: **Lord graciously hear us**

Everlasting Father,
establish your reign of justice and
righteousness.
Lord hear us: **Lord graciously hear us.**

Prince of peace,
bring in the endless kingdom of your peace.
Lord hear us: **Lord graciously hear us.**

Almighty Lord, hear our prayer, and fulfil
your purposes in us, as you accomplished
your will in our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen**

The Lords Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against
us.**

**And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and
the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

*Please could we come and receive the
Christingles*

**Silent night, holy night,
all is calm, all is bright;
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night,
shepherds first saw the sight:
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing alleluia:
Christ the Saviour is born,
Christ the Saviour is born!**

**Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light;
radiance beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.**

The Blessing

Receive the light of Christ; may it
shine in your hearts and in your
homes; bear it with joy in His love and
service:

May the eagerness of the shepherds,
the joy of the angels,
the perseverance of the wise men,
the obedience of Joseph and Mary,
and the peace of the Christ-child
be yours this Christmas.

And May Almighty God....
God shine in your hearts
Praise to Christ our light
Christ is the light of the world
Praise to Christ our light
Go, in the power of the Spirit, to bring
light to others
Praise to Christ our light.